

BUFFALOBERRY PATCH

BY GREG FREEMAN, DEPARTMENT NEWS EDITOR



CRAIG BIEHRLE

Hunters can still purchase remaining doe licenses in North Dakota.

Doe Licenses Remain

Interested deer hunters can still purchase whitetail doe licenses and use them during the bow, deer gun, and muzzle-loader seasons as long as the unit, sex and species printed on the license are followed.

Additionally, doe licenses that have already been issued and are printed with second, third or additional concurrent season designations, can be used during any open season: bow season with a bow; deer gun season with a bow, rifle, or muzzle-loader; or during the muzzle-loader season with a muzzle-loader. Hunters must stay in the unit to which the license is assigned.

Refer to the Game and Fish website, discovernd.com/gnf, or call 701-328-6300 for information on remaining licenses. Licenses are available to residents and nonresidents.

The archery season is open through January 8, 2006; the regular deer gun season opens at noon November 4 and continues through November 20; and the muzzle-loader season opens at noon November 25 and continues through December 11.

Deer Bow Season Extended

Archery hunters should note the 2005 deer bow season will close January 8, 2006, instead of January 1 as listed in the 2005 North Dakota Deer Hunting Guide. In September, Game and Fish Department officials made the decision to allow another week of bowhunting so the season would be open throughout the New Year's Day holiday weekend, and then close at the same time as upland game seasons on January 8.

Deer Hunters Asked to Donate Venison

After a successful campaign last fall, two North Dakota wildlife groups are again encouraging hunters to help out local food pantries and soup kitchens by donating deer taken this fall.

Sportsmen Against Hunger is a charitable program in the Bismarck area that has arranged for deer to be processed and delivered at no cost to the hunter. Hunters are asked to call West Dakota Meats in Bismarck (221-9142), or Choice Cut Meats in Mandan (663-1888), before dropping off a deer in order to verify the SAH quota has not been filled. SAH is sponsored and paid for by the Northern Plains Chapter of Safari Club International.

In the Valley City area, the Barnes County Wildlife Club is arranging for the processing of 100 deer. The club is seeking hunters to sign up to donate one or more deer. For more information contact Perry Kapaun at 845-0564; or email pskapaun@ictc.com.

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department supports these programs and encourages hunters to participate.

NORTH DAKOTA OUTDOORS ON TELEVISION

Your Weekly Window on the WILD

Bismarck	KFYR	Tuesday	10 pm
Bismarck	KXMB	Sunday	10 pm
Bismarck	CATV	Saturday	Noon
Dickinson	KQCD	Tuesday	*9 pm
Dickinson	KXMA	Sunday	*9 pm
Fargo	KVRR	Sunday	9 pm
Grand Forks	WDAZ	Wednesday	5 pm
Minot	KMOT	Tuesday	10 pm
Minot	KXMC	Monday	Noon
Williston	KUMV	Tuesday	10 pm
Williston	KXMD	Monday	Noon

*Mountain time

CWD Surveillance Continues

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department will continue its chronic wasting disease Hunter-Harvested Surveillance program during the 2005 deer season.

Hunters are encouraged to provide samples from their deer by stopping at any of the Department's district offices and three participating national wildlife refuges. The refuges are Tewaukon NWR, Cayuga, Arrowwood NWR, Pingree, and Devils Lake Wetland Management District.

Department personnel will also operate two collection sites opening weekend in Belfield at Tesoro truck stop and Conoco. In addition, Game and Fish is relying heavily on cooperating meat processors, fur buyers and wildlife clubs in the 2005 surveillance units.

Heads will be removed on site, or hunters may drop off heads at one of the sites. Tags will remain on the ear or antler, and carcass tags will remain with the deer. Hunters will be given a temporary tag for transportation purposes.

Samples from hunter-harvested deer will be taken from animals this fall in 25 deer hunting units: 1, 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F1, 2F2, 2G, 2G1, 2G2, 2L, 3B2, 3D1, 3D2, 3E1, 3E2, 3F1, 3F2, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E and 4F.

Heads can be dropped off through November at Game and Fish offices in Williston, Dickinson, Bismarck, Riverdale, Devils Lake, Harvey (Lonetree) and Jamestown.

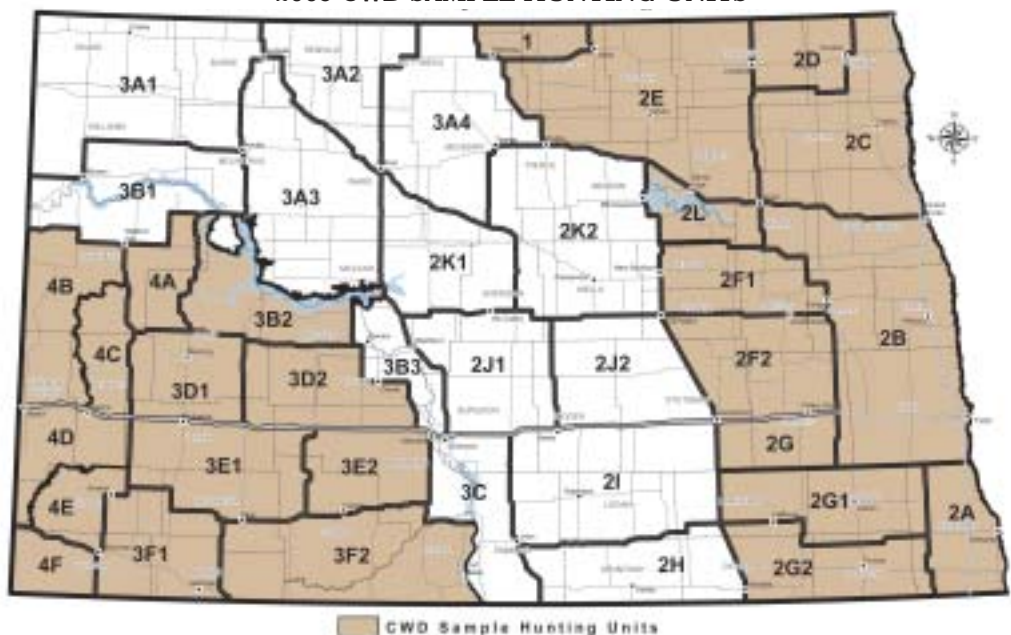
To date, CWD has not been diagnosed in wild or farmed deer or elk in North Dakota. Test results for CWD on more than 4,000 wild deer and 80 elk harvested during the 2002-04 hunting seasons were negative.

Chronic wasting disease affects the nervous system of white-tailed deer, mule deer and elk and is fatal. Scientists have found no evidence that CWD can be transmitted naturally to humans or livestock.



The North Dakota Game and Fish Department will continue its Hunter-Harvested Surveillance program for chronic wasting disease during the 2005 deer season. Hunters are encouraged to stop at deer head collection sites and provide samples from their deer. Samples from hunter-harvested deer will be taken from animals in 25 deer hunting units.

North Dakota Game and Fish Department
2005 CWD SAMPLE HUNTING UNITS



NORTH DAKOTA OUTDOORS Live!

With Radio Host Doug Leier, Game and Fish Outreach Biologist

Saturdays at 11 a.m. (10 a.m. mountain time)

on the following North Dakota Clear Channel radio network stations:

KFGO-AM 790, Fargo

KKXL-AM 1440, Grand Forks • KCJB-AM 910, Minot

KLTC-AM 1460, Dickinson • KFYZ-AM 550, Bismarck

(Tape delay from previous week:

KFAN-AM 1130, Twin Cities, Saturdays at 5 a.m.)

Join Doug and guests for news and conversation that embraces everyone with an interest in North Dakota's Outdoors.

Precaution Against Spread of CWD

Guidelines for transporting deer and elk carcasses and carcass parts into North Dakota have been established as a precaution against bringing chronic wasting disease into the state.

Hunters are not allowed to transport into North Dakota the whole carcass, or certain carcass parts, of deer or elk from areas within states or provinces with documented occurrences of CWD in wild populations and private game farms. To date, CWD has not been diagnosed in wild or farmed deer or elk in North Dakota, but in recent years has been found in a growing number of locations across North America.

Hunters taking white-tailed deer, mule deer or elk from areas documented with CWD are allowed to transport the following portions of the carcass:

- Meat that is cut and wrapped commercially or privately.
- Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached.
- Meat that has been boned out.
- Hides with no heads attached.
- Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skull plates with antlers attached.
- Antlers with no meat or tissue attached.
- Upper canine teeth, also known as buglers, whistlers or ivories.
- Finished taxidermy heads.

A complete list of states and areas with documented cases of CWD is available on the Department's website, discovernd.com/gnf.

Darkhouse Spearfishing Season Set

North Dakota's darkhouse spearfishing season opens on a number of state waters December 1 and continues through February 28. Legal species are northern pike and nongame fish.

Participants must register with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Free registration is available on the Department's website, discovernd.com/gnf, or through any Game and Fish Department office.

Darkhouse spearing is allowed for all residents with a valid fishing license, and those under the age of 16. Nonresidents from states that allow North Dakotans to participate in darkhouse spearfishing can darkhouse spearfish in North Dakota with a valid fishing license. Minnesota is the only neighboring state that does not allow nonresident darkhouse spearfishing.

Other regulations include:

- A spear is counted as a pole (line) while darkhouse spearfishing.
- Pneumatic or rubber band powered spearguns are not allowed.
- When a dark house is moved, or a hole larger than 12 inches in diameter is left in the ice, the hole must be adequately marked with a natural object (such as a tree branch or tumbleweed) visible from a minimum of 150 feet.
- There is no size limit on ice holes in lakes where darkhouse spearing is allowed. However, hook and line fishing is legal only in holes no larger than 12 inches in diameter.
- Legal live baitfish, with the exception of white sucker, and artificial lures can be used as decoys.

• Daily/possession limits are the same as for hook and line fishing.

• Darkhouse spearing is allowed only in the following areas:

Devils Lake, Benson/Ramsey counties
Silver Lake, Benson County
Powers Lake, Burke County
Rice Lake, Emmons County
Juanita Lake, Foster County
Lake Etta/Alkaline Lake complex,
Horsehead Lake, and Round Lake,
Kidder County
Flood Lake and Diamond Lake,
LaMoure County
Beaver Lake and West Napoleon Lake,
Logan County
Buffalo Lodge Lake, McHenry County
Coldwater Lake and Dry/Goose Lake,
McIntosh County
Stanley Reservoir, Mountrail County
Cavanaugh Lake, Morrison Lake, and
Sweetwater Lake, Ramsey County
Carpenter Lake and School Section Lake,
Rolette County
Buffalo Lake, Sargent County
Grass Lake, Richland County
Coal Mine Lake, Sheridan County
Mallard Marsh and Spiritwood Lake,
Stutsman County
Lake Laretta, Nelson County
Cottonwood Lake and Tioga Reservoir,
Williams County
Lake Sakakawea from Garrison Dam to
Highway 85 bridge at Williston
Lake Oahe from South Dakota border to
McLean Bottoms boat ramp.

Night Vision Optics Update

Turns out, North Dakota does have a law that prevents someone from using a night vision device, for example, to keep track of deer through the night when animals are out and active, then move into position for a shot when legal shooting time arrives.

In the From Both Sides department in the September-October issue of *North Dakota OUTDOORS*, we wrote that North Dakota did not have such a law.

The law, as stated in the 2005-06 North Dakota Deer Hunting Proclamation, reads: "Use of night vision equipment or electronically enhanced light gathering optics for locating or hunting game is prohibited."

Having this law already in place in North Dakota is a good thing. It puts to rest the debate over whether using night vision optics is ethical, and simply makes it illegal, before very many people have invested hundreds of dollars to obtain one of these devices with the